



# PEOPLE PLANES PLACES

PH1 William R. Goodwin

**Edited by JOSN Dan Ball**

## Awards

The individual and unit winners for 2000 are Lt. Ryan Christopher of HC-5 and VAW-117, respectively. The award is presented yearly to the individual and organization contributing the most toward aviation safety through publications.

VT-35 received the **2000 Vice Admiral Robert Goldthwaite Award** for training excellence on 11 May at the National Museum of Naval Aviation, Pensacola, Fla.

The following **2001 CNO Search and Rescue Excellence Awards**

**Aviation Boatswain's Mate Airman Roy Diaz hooks the launch bar to an E-2C Hawkeye assigned to the Liberty Bells of VAW-115 during flight operations aboard Kitty Hawk (CV 63).**

were presented to: Aviation Rescue Swimmer of the Year, AW2 Todd J. Simpson; SAR Unit of the Year, NAS Fallon, Nev.; and Aviation Rescue Crew of the Year, Firewood Six SAR Crew, NAS Whidbey Island, Wash. Recipients of the award exemplify the selfless commitment to others embodied in the SAR motto: "So Others May Live."

Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet awarded the **2000 Battenberg Cup** to *George Washington* (CVN 73). This award is presented annually to the best overall ship in the fleet based on the number of crew achievements.

The Association of Old Crows (AOC) presented VQ-2 the **AOC Outstanding Navy Unit Award** for 2001.

AW2 John Watson of HSL-48 was awarded a **Navy/Marine Corps Medal** for rescuing a *Briscoe* (DD 977) Sailor who fell from the flight deck of the destroyer into choppy water on 19 April.

VP-16 Lts. Matthew Willer and Brian Cowell received **Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals** for rescuing a father and daughter from a rip tide at a beach in Luquillo, P.R., on 11 March.

## Correction to Jul–Aug 01

Page 40: We extend our apologies to the staff of *Mech* magazine for inadvertently omitting their 1st Place win in the **2000 CHINFO Merit Awards** in the Publications for a Specific Audience (Magazine) category. Congratulations!

## Scan Pattern

Some 200 Marines from **VMFA(AW)-533** deployed to Kadena Air Base, Japan, to train and

qualify as the first Marine Expeditionary Unit, Special Operations Capable F/A-18 *Hornet* squadron. The unit will provide the MEU with capabilities such as airborne reconnaissance and surveillance, tactical air control airborne, forward air control airborne, close air support, escort and airborne defense of the Amphibious Task Force, as well as instant and decisive firepower.

The Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) officially opened the **Navy E-Learning** website at [www.navylearning.com](http://www.navylearning.com) and [www.navylearning.mil](http://www.navylearning.mil). The site offers more than 800 information technology, 350 leadership/professional development and 37 military courses via a single integrated portal on the World Wide Web. Access to Navy and Department of Defense training and education; video teletraining course catalog links to other education, training and professional development information; and other references and links, such as the Navy College Program and Navy Advancement Center, are also available on the site.

E-8 personnel in the aviation storekeeper (AK) and storekeeper (SK) ratings now use the title “**senior chief storekeeper**” since AK and SK E-9 personnel merged in 2000. Advances in shipboard logistics practices and technology made the consolidation practical. The merger combines AK responsibilities with the established SK ratings. The conversion is automatic and no individual action is required. Newly converted E-8 personnel use the new title but can maintain their AK rating badges until advancement or 30 June 2003. E-7 personnel will merge in June 2002, and E-1 through E-6 will merge in January 2003. For more information, call 703-614-6850 or 703-614-6649.

In a 26 June ceremony at NAS Pensacola, Fla., Lt. Col. Stefan Kuhn relieved German Navy LCdr. Dieter Hagenuelken as Commanding Officer, **2nd German Air Force Training Squadron USA**. The German Air Force has been a part of Training Air Wing 6 since June 1996. The squadron is responsible for basic training of *Tornado* and *Phantom* weapons system officers and tactical coordinators for the German Navy

Photos by PHAN Daniel J. McLain



An F-14D *Tomcat* assigned to VF-2 launches from *Constellation* (CV 64) towing a target for air-to-air gunnery practice during WESTPAC '01.







*Atlantic* multipurpose aircraft and MK 41 *Sea King* helicopters. It also instructs basic and advanced training for German Navy helicopter pilots at NAS Whiting Field, Fla., and NAS North Island, Calif.

## Records

On 29 June, a VFA-137 F/A-18 *Hornet* landed aboard *Constellation* (CV 64), left, marking the 375,000th arrested landing in the ship's history.

**Capt. George B. Dom**, Commander CVW-7, made his 1,000th trap on 20 July, on board *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67).

**HC-85** has compiled 60,000 flight hours over 26 years without a Class "A" mishap.

## Rescues

A search for four missing boaters that began on 5 May ended the next day after another boater located the partially submerged 17-foot sailboat in the Chesapeake Bay near the mouth of Virginia's York River. A **CGAS Elizabeth City**, N.J., HH-60 *Jayhawk* transported the victims to a nearby hospital. Efforts to revive two of the boaters were unsuccessful and they were pronounced dead at the hospital.

Nine people were rescued about two miles off the coast of Nahant,



The first operational F/A-18E *Super Hornet* squadron, Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 115, NAS Lemoore, Calif., was declared safe for flight certification following a series of inspections and reviews to satisfy Navy requirements. Nicknamed the *Eagles*, the squadron will train for its first deployment with the *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72) Battle Group and Carrier Air Wing 14 next summer.

Prior to certification, VFA-115 pilots and maintenance crews trained with VFA-122, the *Super Hornet* fleet readiness squadron, for the arrival of the Navy's new *Super Hornet* aircraft. With an inventory of six aircraft, VFA-115 is now capable of operating autonomously.

The *Super Hornet* is a multimission aircraft that can be employed as a fighter, bomber or tanker. The new jet's tactical mission spectrum spans from long-range, sea-based air dominance to deep-strike interdiction. Designed to carry every tactical air-to-air and air-to-ground weapon in the Navy's inventory, the plane is equipped with an enhanced radar system and an advanced on-board sensor fusion capability. The *Super Hornet* is the Navy's premier strike fighter aircraft, planned to lead Naval Aviation in the 21st century.

For more information about the *Super Hornet*, go to [www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/aircraft/fa18](http://www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/aircraft/fa18), and select [shornet.html](http://shornet.html). To learn more about VFA-115, go to [www.lemoore.navy.mil/vfa-115](http://www.lemoore.navy.mil/vfa-115).

## HSL-41 LAUNCHES SEAHAWK UNIVERSITY

By JO3(SW) Christopher C. Fowler

The NAS North Island, Calif.- based Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron Light (HSL) 41 *Seahawks* have designed a program to help bring college education to Sailors.

"For many Sailors, taking the first step toward a college education is the most difficult," commented NCC Kenda L. Robison, the *Seahawks*' Command Career Counselor and Education Service Officer. At her request, Navy College accessed the squadron ASVAB scores, SMART transcripts, and educational histories to help identify service members who were close to completing college degrees. On 13 July the squadron hosted an education fair that included representatives from local colleges and universities, financial counseling, and help with tuition assistance and registration forms.

College courses benefiting the largest number of



Sailors are offered at the newly christened "Seahawk University." Instructors from a local university visit the squadron and teach two or three days a week.

During the year the syllabus progresses from introductory to more advanced classes.

The classes are having a twofold affect. "Since the command has demonstrated an interest in its members, I have noticed a real boost to command morale and camaraderie," said AW2 Shane Terrel, who was among the first to enroll. "I'm meeting people in my squadron I never had a chance to talk with before. I have even received phone calls from other squadrons asking if there are positions open in my shop. They want to transfer to HSL-41 so they can attend college."

Anyone wishing more information on Navy educational opportunities should contact their Navy College office.



JO2 Karen M. Golembieski

**Commandant Naval District Washington RAdm. Christopher E. Weaver honored members of the 2001 restoration crew of the T-28 *Trojan* display at Anacostia Annex, Washington, D.C. Left to right: AS1 James Cole, AMS2 Richard D. McDonald, RAdm. Weaver, Marine LCpl. Clinton J. Duclos and Mr. Dave Devnew. Not shown: MSgt. Robert Lacquay and TSgt. Christopher Coffelt.**

Mass., on 6 May, after both engines on their Piper *Navajo* aircraft failed. CGAS Point Allerton in Hull, Mass., sent two 47-foot rescue boats to the scene. Expecting the worst, they were

glad to find the pilot and all of the passengers safe in a life raft or alongside. A CGAS Cape Cod, Mass., HH-60 *Jayhawk* was dispatched to the scene for rescue and recovery.

Rescue efforts aimed at saving the lives of 28 illegal immigrants were aided on 23 and 24 May by Marines from MCAS Yuma, Ariz., Search and Rescue HH-1N "Huey" helicopters. The U.S. Border Patrol called on the Marines after finding four of the travelers in the 115-degree desert. The efforts of the pilots, aircrew and corpsmen helped the Border Patrol agents get the immigrants to the Yuma Regional Medical Center quickly, which was instrumental in saving many of them.

Lts. Kirby Baker and Scott Bracher of VS-32 saved the lives of two young boys who almost drowned in a pool in St. Thomas, V.I., on 9 June. The lieutenants heard the mother scream for help and stepped in to assist. They were able to get the water out of the boys' lungs and then stayed with them until an ambulance arrived.

On 21 July, Singapore tanker HL *Moogal* called the Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, regarding a 32-year-old

## CHANGE OF COMMAND

**CCG-6:** RAdm. Steven J. Tomaszeski relieved RAdm. Lewis W. Crenshaw, Jr., 30 Jul.

**Constellation (CV 64):** Capt. John W. Miller relieved Capt. Jamie Kelly, 13 May.

**CVW-1:** Capt. Stephen S. Voetsch relieved Capt. Philip W. Grandfield, 1 Jul.

**CVW-3:** Capt. David L. Philman relieved Capt. Joseph F. Kilkenny, 19 Jul.

**HELWINGRES:** Capt. Daniel B. Bell relieved Capt. Robert D. Howell, 14 Jul.

**HS-3:** Cdr. Lee W. Schonenberg relieved Cdr. George A. Chamberlain, Jr., 6 Jun.

**HS-5:** Cdr. Steve Schrieber relieved Cdr. Vincent Lamolinara, 31 May.

**HS-11:** Cdr. Kerry B. Canady relieved Cdr. John W. Smith, Jr., 4 Jun.

**HSL-40:** Cdr. William Lescher relieved Cdr. Wayne Tunick, 29 Jun.

**HSL-41:** Cdr. Thomas H. Webber relieved Capt. Earl L. Gay, 22 May.

**HSL-49:** Cdr. Frederick T. Blanchard relieved Cdr. William P. Cuilik, 28 Jun.

**NAES Lakehurst, N.J.:** Capt. Dwight L. Cousins relieved Capt. Stephen J. Himes, 29 Jun.

**NAMTRAGRU HQ:** Capt. Frank J. Smith relieved Capt. Steven B. Gibson, 15 Jun.

**NAS Sigonella, Italy:** Capt. Timothy L. Davison relieved Capt. Arne J. Nelson, 11 Jul.

**RESPATWING:** Capt. David L. Montgomery relieved Capt. Robert A. Sinibaldi, Jr., 21 Jul.

**TACRON-22:** Cdr. Steven A. Malloy relieved Cdr. Wayne P. Stamper, 31 Aug.

**VAQ-136:** Cdr. Steve Baxter relieved Cdr. Bud Bishop, 21 May.

**VAQ-142:** Cdr. Mark W. Darrah relieved Cdr. Peter B. Rush, 13 Mar.

**VAW-125:** Cdr. Harry M. Robinson relieved Cdr. Ralph H. Ricardo, 4 May.

**VF-101:** Cdr. Samuel B. Richardson relieved Cdr. Luke R. Parent, 29 Jun.

**VFA-15:** Cdr. David C. Stewart relieved Cdr. Scott E. Smith, 6 May.

**VFA-83:** Cdr. Thomas A. Meadows relieved Cdr. Kevin M. Keutmann, 20 Jul.

**VFA-87:** Cdr. Tushar Tembe relieved Cdr. Tom Huff, 2 Jul.

**VFA-203:** Cdr. Michael J. Wellington relieved Cdr. Craig N. McCartney, 9 Jun.

**VMFA-235:** Lt. Col. Martin G. Rollinger relieved Lt. Col. Lee P. Futch, 22 Jun.

**VMFA (AW)-224:** Lt. Col. Thomas C. Moore relieved Lt. Col. Stephen T. Ganyard, 18 May.

**VP-5:** Cdr. Paul J. Frost relieved Cdr. Timothy E. Boothe, 1 Jun.

**VP-10:** Cdr. Kelly M. Johnson relieved Cdr. Gene A. Summerlin, 8 Jun.

**VP-94:** Cdr. Kirk E. Engel relieved Cdr. William A. King, 19 May.

**VQ-3:** Cdr. Brian T. Costello relieved Cdr. Margaret D. Klein, 6 Jul.

**VR-56:** Cdr. William A. Vaughn relieved Cdr. Jose L. Romero, 23 Jun.

**VS-31:** Cdr. Randy Wood relieved Cdr. James Gregorski, 2 Jul.

**VT-10:** Lt. Col. John S. Clark, Jr., relieved Cdr. Brian R. Toon, 12 Jul.

crewman who was suffering from appendicitis and needed medical care. After consulting with doctors, the rescue coordinators recommended evacuation to the nearest hospital. The tanker's position was 830 nautical miles southeast of Hawaii. It took a joint **Navy and Coast Guard** operation involving SEAL Team 1, *Lake Erie* (CG 70) and two aircraft to get the patient to the hospital.

At 0200 on 22 July, four members of SEAL Team 1 parachuted with a raft out of a CGAS Barbers Point, Hawaii, C-130 aircraft, paddled to the tanker and administered antibiotics to the sick man. *Lake Erie* got underway just after midnight, and later a CGAS Barbers Point HH-65 helicopter landed aboard the cruiser to assist in the rescue. When CG 70 was in range of the tanker, the helo crew performed a nighttime hoist and returned with the victim to *Lake Erie* for the day's ride back to Hawaii. When the cruiser was 100 miles southeast of the island, the helicopter departed for Hilo Airport and from there an ambulance took the patient to Hilo Medical Center. A successful appendectomy was performed on the crewman.

## Former NANA News Staffer Demonstrates that Pigs Can Fly



While stationed in Korea, Army CW2 Blake Towler—a former JO2 and assistant editor of *NANA News*—received his unit's coveted "Stick Pig" patch for accumulation of flight hours.